Policy of Non-alignment

4545. SHRI EM. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is pursuing the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's policy of 'Non-aligned countries unity' and Smt. Indira Gandhi's Policy of economic cooperation of Non-aligned countries, further extended by Shri Rajiv Gandhi's shared vision of 21st century for NAM as official policy; and

(b) if so, whether it would be extended in the matter of multilateral trade talks in WTO lead by India as one of the fast developing nation among the underdeveloped and least developed countries of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, India is a founder member of the Non Aligned Movement and believes in the continuning relevance of its basic priniciples. In NAM meetings, India has also been emphasizing the need for revitalization of NAM thorugh a contemporary and forward-looking approach.

(b) India is fully engaged with other developing countries in the ongoing Doha round of WTO negotiations. In this context, a Ministerial Meeting of the G-20, a grouping of developing countries, was held in New Delhi from March 18-19, 2005. The meeting reaffirmed the Group's solidarity and cohesiveness.

Hostage policy

4546. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out a policy on hostages on the lines of Us-lsrael policy in this regrard;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with main features of the policy; and

(c) by when the policy is likely to be finalized and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) It is the policy of the Government of India not to compromise with terrorist groups or elements. However, while adhering to this principle, the objective of the Government is to ensure the safety and well-being of all its citizens, whether in India or abroad. In case of hostage-taking, Government makes all efforts possible to secure the early and safe release of its nationals. In order to deal with